

What is claimed is:

1.

A stand mixer with control panel, the stand mixer comprising:

- 5 a mixer housing having an upper surface and a lower surface;  
a motor within the mixer housing operably connected to a rotatable output shaft; and  
a control panel on the mixer housing having a rotary dial adjustable by the user for  
controlling the motor and a power button actuatable by a user for starting the motor  
located in the center of the rotary dial.

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2.

The stand mixer of claim 1 further comprising a speed indicator having a plurality  
of speed locations.

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3.

The stand mixer of claim 2 wherein the speed indicator includes a lens at the  
plurality of speed locations.

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4.

The stand mixer of claim 2 wherein the speed indicator is positioned radially from  
an axis of rotation of the rotary dial.

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5.

The stand mixer of claim 2 further comprising an illuminator wherein movement of  
the rotary dial causes the illuminator to be selectively positioned beneath one of the  
plurality of speed locations.

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6.

The stand mixer of claim 5 wherein the illuminator is a light emitting diode.

7.

The stand mixer of claim 5 further comprising a pivotal arm attached to the rotary dial and supporting the illuminator, the pivotal arm moveably positioned beneath the plurality of speed locations.

8.

The stand mixer of claim 5 wherein a shroud aligns with the illuminator for controlling direction of light from the illuminator.

9.

The stand mixer of claim 3 wherein the lenses at the plurality of speed locations are joined by a web, the web being sufficiently thin to minimize light travel between the lens.

10.

The stand mixer of claim 1 further comprising an indicator light for displaying readiness.

11.

The stand mixer of claim 1 wherein the control panel is positioned on the upper surface of the mixer housing.

12.

A method of controlling operation of a stand mixer, the method comprising: adjusting a rotary dial to select a motor speed; and actuating a power button located at the center of the rotary dial for starting a motor on the stand mixer.

13.

The method of claim 12 further comprising lighting one of a plurality of lights located on an upper surface of the stand mixer to indicate the motor speed.

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14.

The method of claim 12 further comprising illuminating a light to indicate the operational mode of the stand mixer.

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The method of claim 12 further comprising rotating the rotary dial from an off position for bringing the motor on the stand mixer to a standby mode.

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The method of claim 12 further comprising actuating a power button for stopping the motor on the stand mixer thereby placing the stand mixer in a standby mode.

17.

The method of claim 12 further comprising rotating the rotary dial to an off position thereby bringing the stand mixer to an off mode.

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18.

A stand mixer with control panel, the stand mixer comprising:  
a mixer housing having an upper surface and a lower surface;  
a motor within the mixer housing operably connected to a rotatable output shaft;  
a control panel on the mixer housing engaging a power switch and a speed selector;  
a speed indicator located on the upper surface of the stand mixer to indicate motor speed.

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19.

The stand mixer of claim 18 wherein the speed indicator includes a plurality of speed locations.

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20.

The stand mixer of claim 19 wherein the speed indicator includes a lens at the plurality of speed locations.

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21.

The stand mixer of claim 20 further comprises an illuminator positioned beneath the plurality of speed locations.

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22.

The stand mixer of claim 21 wherein the illuminator is a light emitting diode.

23.

15 The stand mixer of claim 18 wherein the control panel is positioned on the upper surface of the mixer housing.

24.

A stand mixer comprising:

a mixer housing having an upper surface and a lower surface;

20 a motor within the housing operably connected to a rotatable output shaft; and

a control panel utilized to control the motor, the control panel positioned on a top portion of the upper surface of the mixer housing.

25.

25 The stand mixer of claim 24 wherein the control panel has a speed indicator, a power button actuable by a user for starting the motor, and a rotary dial adjustable by the user for controlling the motor.

26.

30 The stand mixer of claim 25 wherein the power button is located in the center of the rotary dial.